Insurance claims of sugarcane growers of Andhra Pradesh

1949. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of help extended to the sugarcane growers of Andhra Pradesh who have lost heavily due to severe floods last year;

(b) whether it is a fact that those farmers have not been paid the insurance money, so far; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) to (c) Sugarcane growers are compensated under National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) in case they have insured their crop against the damage caused by natural calamities including floods. Admissible claims under NAIS are worked out and settled based on the yield data made available by the State concerned. Claims pertaining to sugarcane crop in Andhra Pradesh have been settled up to Kharif 2004. In Kharif 2004 alone claims amounting to Rs. 63.73 lakhs have been paid to sugarcane growers.

Requisite yield data for sugarcane crop in respect of Kharif 2005, is yet to be received from the State. The admissible claims for Kharif 2005 would be settled thereafter.

Occupational deaths of fishermen

1950. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether occupational deaths are high among fishermen;

(b) if so, whether proper safety measures are being taken to protect them;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) to (d) Fishing occupation as such is prone to

risk and accidents due to various reasons. Fishermen are continuously sensitized on the need to adhere to sea safety measures while going for fishing. Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Development of Marine Fisheries being implemented, a component on Safety of Fishermen at sea is included. Under this component, financial assistance is provided for acquisition of GPS and wireless sets to fishermen. As a welfare measure, Group accident insurance for active fishermen is in place for which an annual premium of Rs. 14 is shared by the Central and State Government on 50:50 basis and the benefit includes Rs. 50,000 in case of accidental death/total permanent disability and Rs. 25,000 in case of permanent partial disability. Earlier marine patrol boats were supplied to all costal States with 100% central grant, which implemented Marine Fishing Regulation Acts for marine patrolling and rescue operations. Besides, Indian Coast Guard keep a close vigil on fishermen especially during inclement weather. Early weather warning system is also in place for fishermen.

KVKs in Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh

1951. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the criteria for sanctioning Krishi Vigyan Kendras especially in hilly and backward areas of Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the names and districts of Uttaranchal where such Kendras are proposed to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The Government has approved for establishment of one Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) in each of the 578 rural districts of the country (as per India 2002) including Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh.

(b) The 578 rural districts includes all the 13 districts of Uttaranchal. The districts are Tehri Garhwal, Champawat, Nainital, Almora, Chamoli, Haridwar, Pauri Garhwal, Rudra Prayag, Dehradun, Pithoragarh, Udhamsingh Nagar, Uttarkashi, and Bageshwar.